#### Week In Review

December 3, 2025

Today: What does 2026 portend?

Portfolio Pilot – an Al-powered portfolio analyzer

Today's polling question: How confident or fearful are you of the stock market?

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Disclaimer: I am not a certified financial analyst.

Any trading decisions you make are your responsibility

**OLLI-GMU Investment Forum** 

# Economic Commentary

Big holiday season coming up

- Fed rate cut is priced in: 80% probability of a cut (WSJ)
- Retail sales up 0.1% in November 6<sup>th</sup> month in a row
- Delinquency rate on credit cards at 2.85%, elevated but decreasing. Long term average is 2.4%
- Very strong holiday sales season is projected
- Money market funds have climbed to \$8T (Bloomberg)
- Oil production exceeds demand by 1.3M bpd, and rising
  - Price could drop from \$59 to \$30 by 2027 (JPM)
  - Gas price dropped to \$2.99 nationally
- China manufacturing shrank 8<sup>th</sup> month in arow (Reuters)
- European economy rebounding
  - Reduced regulation
  - Inflation declining toward 2%
  - Record job creation in 2025 amid low unemployment
- Japan may raise interest rates to 0.5%
  - Bond market kerfuffle

### Major Economy Interest Rates

#### The New World Order

China's rates were the highest of the major economies. Now they're the lowest

10-Year Bund Yield / 10-Year Treasury Yield / 10-Year JGB Yield / 10-Year China Yield

Chart showing yields for above since 2021

# Market commentary

- Worst November for S&P500 since 2008;
- Tax loss harvesting in progress
- Crypto crash likely causing margin calls; and sales of stocks
- Biotech is taking off: see XBI. Up 32% YTD
- Bitcoin has fallen drastically from 123K to 85K in 7 weeks
- Strong Q3 earnings results from Nvidia, Walmart, GM,
   Amazon, Apple, Best Buy, Visa, McDonalds, Cruise lines
- Target, Home Depot struggling; Disney flat
- New Prediction Markets are creating concern
  - Draft Kings, FanDuel, Kalshi, Polymarket, etc
  - 25% of bettors are defaulting (US News)
  - Schwab and BofA issued warnings to lenders
- VIX: declined to 17: neutral
- CNN fear gauge: 24: extreme fear
- AAI investor sentiment: 32% bullish; 43% bearish

## 2026 Forecasts by Asset Class



2026
Predictions for S&P500.
(Presently 6830)

Don't bet the house on it

• JP Morgan: 8000+

Goldman Sachs: 6% (7250)

Deutsch Bank: 8000

• HSBC: 7500

• Wells Fargo: 7800

• UBS: 7500

Morgan Stanley: 7700

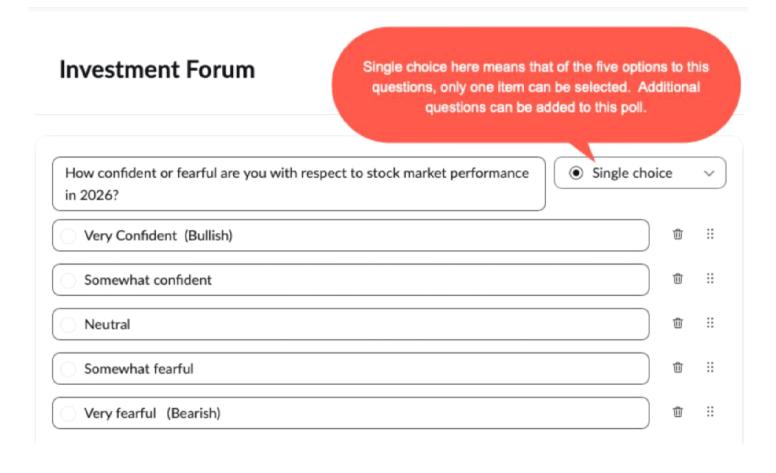
• Barclays: 7400

• RBC: 7750

• BofA: 7100

International stocks will do best

### Let's run the poll



# Nvidia update – buy the dip?

Outstanding Q3; raised guidance

• Forward PE: 24

• PEG: 0.75

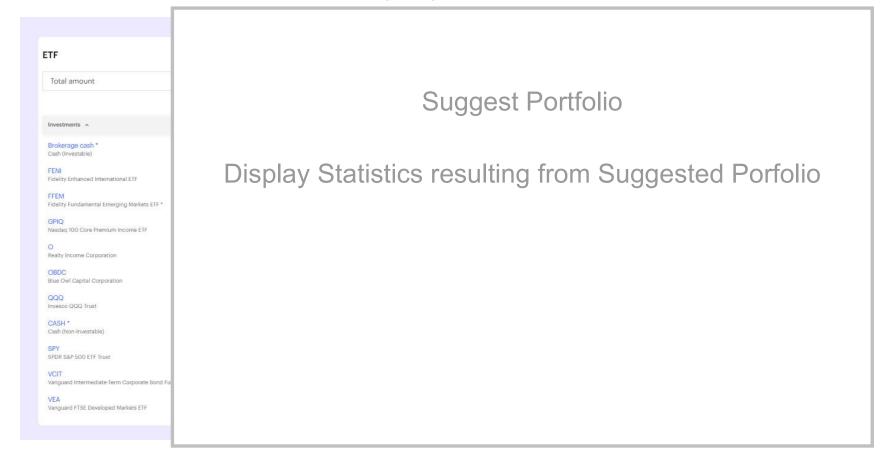
• Short interest: <1%

Nvidia
Price performance
and
Statistics

#### Portfolio Pilot – an Al-powered tool (free)

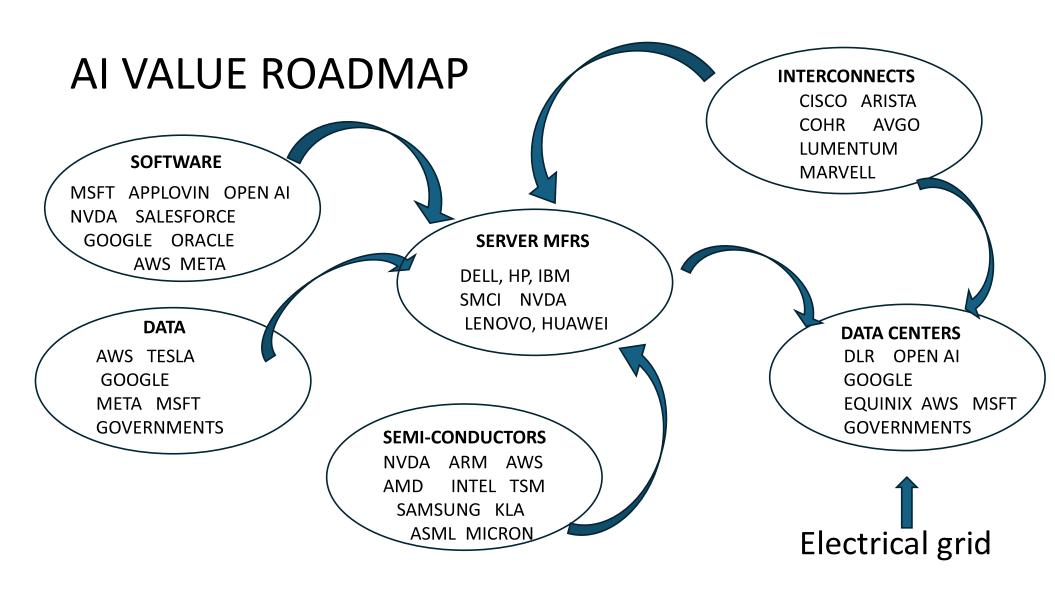
www.portfoliopilot.com

Sample portfolio



### Now what?

- December 10 Fed interest rate cut is likely
- US economy is strong but....with uncertainty
  - Consumer spending is strong but with low confidence, nervousness
  - K-shaped consumer profile
- Labor market is clearly weakening data still missing
- Tariff effects minimal and sector-dependent
  - Supreme Court to rule on tariff legality soon
- Stock market is very expensive, fragile
  - Al rebalancing in progress plus crypto crash, tax loss harvesting
  - Protect yourself with automated stop loss orders; or put options as insurance
  - Diversify!



By 2030, Al alone is projected to contribute more than \$15 trillion to the global economy. (SIA)